AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims shall replace all prior versions and listing of the claims in this application:

1. (Currently amended) An automated data storage library for accessing data storage media in response to commands from at least one external host system, comprising:

a housing unit;

a plurality of storage shelves for storing data storage cartridges within the housing unit, a data storage cartridge including data storage medium and a cartridge memory;

a data storage drive for reading data to and/or writing data from the data storage medium;

~~an~~ a cartridge memory interface for reading data from and/or writing data to at least one predetermined data field ~~associated with the data storage cartridge~~ of the cartridge memory;

a robot accessor for transporting data storage cartridges between the storage shelves and the data storage drive;

a processor programmed with instructions to modify the at least one predetermined data field to render data stored on the data storage medium inaccessible.

2. The automated data storage library of claim 1, the processor further programmed with instructions to restore the at least one predetermined data field to render data stored on the data storage medium accessible.

3. (Currently amended) The automated data storage library of claim 1, the processor further programmed with instructions to direct the data storage drive to apply a correction to data read from the at least one modified predetermined data field wherein data ~~stored on~~ read from the data storage medium is rendered ~~accessible~~ readable to the data storage drive.

4. (Cancelled) The automated data storage library of claim 1, wherein the at least one predetermined data field comprises at least one predetermined data field of a cartridge memory.

5. (Cancelled) The automated data storage library of claim 1, wherein the at least one predetermined data field comprises at least one predetermined data field of the data storage medium.

6. (Currently amended) The automated data storage library of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of logical ~~librarys~~ libraries, the processor further programmed with instructions to write an identifier, associated with at least one predetermined logical library, to the at least one predetermined data field whereby data stored on the data storage medium is accessible only by a data storage drive assigned to the at least one predetermined logical library.

7. (Currently amended) The automated data storage library of claim 1, the processor further programmed with instructions to write an identifier, associated with at least one physical predetermined library, to the predetermined data field whereby data stored on the data storage medium is accessible only ~~to~~ by a data storage drive in the at least one predetermined library.

8. (Currently amended) The automated data storage library of claim 1, wherein the cartridge memory interface is integrated with the storage drive.

9. (Currently amended) The automated data storage library of claim 1, wherein the cartridge memory interface is integrated with the robot accessor.

10. (Cancelled) The automated data storage library of claim 1, wherein:

the at least one predetermined data field is integrated with the data storage medium; and

the interface comprises means for reading data from and/or writing data to the at least one predetermined data field.

11. (Currently amended) The automated data storage library of claim 1, further comprising an export station ~~associated with~~ in the housing unit, the processor further programmed with instructions to ~~restore the predetermined data field and render data stored on the data storage medium accessible when~~ require a correct password before the data storage cartridge is removed from the automated data storage library through the export station.

12. (Currently amended) A method for accessing data stored on data storage media stored within an automated data storage library, the data storage media housed within a data storage cartridge having a cartridge memory, the method comprising:

retrieving a data storage cartridge from a storage shelf in the data storage library, at least one predetermined data field ~~associated with the data storage~~ in the cartridge memory having first contents whereby data stored on the data storage medium is accessible;

modifying the at least one predetermined data field to have second contents whereby the data stored on the data storage medium is inaccessible.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the step of modifying the at least one predetermined data field is performed by ~~an~~ a cartridge memory interface integrated with a robot accessor in the data storage library.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the step of modifying the at least one predetermined data field is performed by ~~an~~ a cartridge memory interface integrated with a data storage drive in the data storage library.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

~~modifying~~ restoring the at least one predetermined data field to have ~~third~~ the second contents whereby the data stored on the data storage medium is rendered accessible; and

accessing the data stored on the data storage medium.

16. (Cancelled) The method of claim 15, wherein the step of accessing the data stored on the data storage medium comprises exporting the data storage cartridge from the data storage library.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

providing a correction to the second contents ~~for~~ of the at least one predetermined data field whereby the data ~~stored on~~ read from the data storage medium is ~~accessible~~ readable to a data storage drive; and

~~accessing~~ reading the data stored on the data storage medium.

18. (Cancelled) The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one predetermined data filed is stored on a cartridge memory.

19. (Cancelled) The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one predetermined data filed is recorded on the data storage media.

20. A computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions to perform the method of claim 12.

21. A method for accessing data stored on data storage media stored within an automated data storage library, the data storage media housed within a data storage cartridge having a cartridge memory, the method comprising:

retrieving a data storage cartridge from a storage shelf in the data storage library for access by a first library;

reading at least one identifier stored in the cartridge memory of the retrieved data storage cartridge;

determining whether the at least one identifier read from the cartridge memory identifies the first library; and

if the at least one identifier read from the cartridge memory identifies the first library, accessing the data stored on the retrieved data storage cartridge; and

if the at least one identifier read from the cartridge memory does not identify the first library, preventing access to the data stored on the retrieved data storage cartridge.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the first library is one of a plurality of logical libraries within the data storage library.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein the first library is one of a plurality of physical libraries.

24. (Currently amended) A controller for an automated storage library, comprising:

means for receiving a request to move a data storage cartridge;

means for directing a robot accessor to retrieve the data storage cartridge ~~from a storage shelf within the automated storage library,~~;

means for ~~performing a first modification~~ modifying contents of at least one predetermined data field ~~associated with~~ of a cartridge memory of the data storage cartridge to render data stored on the data storage medium ~~accessible~~ inaccessible;

means for providing access to the data on the data storage medium;

~~means for performing a second modification of the at least one predetermined data field to render the data stored on the data storage medium inaccessible;~~ and

means for directing the robot accessor to ~~return~~ move the data storage cartridge to a storage shelf within a housing unit of the automated storage library.

25. (Currently amended) The controller of claim 24, wherein the means for ~~performing the first modification comprising~~ providing access to the data comprises means for directing the data storage drive to apply a correction to the contents of the at least one predetermined data field of the cartridge memory to render the data stored on the data storage medium ~~accessible~~ readable to a data storage drive.

26. (Cancelled) The controller of claim 24, wherein:

the means for performing the first and second modifications comprises a cartridge memory interface for interfacing with a cartridge memory integrated with the data storage cartridge; and

the at least one predetermined data field comprises at least one data field of the cartridge memory.

27. (Currently amended) The controller of claim ~~26~~ 24, wherein the cartridge memory interface is ~~associated~~ integrated with the robot accessor.

28. (Currently amended) The controller of claim ~~26~~ 24, wherein the cartridge memory interface is ~~associated~~ integrated with the data storage drive.

29. (Cancelled) The controller of claim 24, wherein the at least one predetermined data field comprises at least one data field of the data storage medium.

30. (Currently amended) The controller of claim 24, wherein:

the automated storage library comprises a plurality of libraries; and

the controller further comprises means for writing at least one identifier, associated with at least one predetermined library, to the cartridge memory whereby data stored on the data storage medium is accessible only to a drive assigned to the at least one predetermined library.

31. (New) The controller of claim 24, wherein means for providing access comprises means for restoring the contents of the at least one predetermined data field.

32. (New) The controller of claim 31, wherein:

the means for modifying comprises means for corrupting the contents of the at least one predetermined data field; and

the means for restoring comprises means for removing the corruption.

33. (New) The controller of claim 31, wherein:

the at least one predetermined data field includes a media generation;

the means for modifying comprises means for writing an invalid media generation; and

the means for restoring comprises means for writing the correct media generation.

34. (New) The automated data storage library of claim 2, wherein:

the instructions to modify comprise instructions to corrupt the at least one predetermined data field; and

the instructions to restore comprise instructions to remove the corruption.

35. (New) The automated data storage library of claim 2, wherein:

the at least one predetermined data field includes a media generation;

the instructions for modifying comprise instructions for writing an invalid media generation; and

the instructions for restoring comprise instructions for writing the correct media generation.

36. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein:

modifying comprises corrupting the contents of the at least one predetermined data field; and

the method further comprises removing the corruption whereby the data stored on the data storage medium is rendered accessible.

37. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein:

the first contents includes a media generation;

modifying comprises writing an invalid media generation; and

the method further comprises writing the correct media generation.